

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MARICOPA)
COUNTY INTEGRATED FAMILY)
COURT MANAGEMENT PLAN)
_____)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2005-104**

Effective April 1, 2002, Administrative Order No. 2001-020 formally initiated the Integrated Family Court Pilot Project in the Maricopa County Superior Court at the Southeast Regional Court Center in Mesa for a test period of twelve (12) months. This initial period was subsequently extended through June 28, 2002 by Administrative Order No. 2002-019. On February 25, 2003, the Arizona Supreme Court issued its Administrative Order No. 2003-023 establishing a broader Integrated Family Court ("IFC") pilot project in the Superior Courts in Coconino, Maricopa and Pinal Counties, and directed that they be established in those counties for a period not to exceed two years from the date the local court plan was approved. In furtherance thereof, the Maricopa County Superior Court submitted a detailed Integrated Family Court Project Plan dated December 11, 2003 to the Arizona Supreme Court. Maricopa County Administrative Order No. 2004-086 was subsequently entered to supplement the existing IFC policies and procedures in the Maricopa County Superior Court. In 2004 the IFC pilot was also expanded to the Durango court facility for a short time.

In 2002, Greacen Associates, LLC, an independent consulting firm extensively evaluated the IFC Pilot Project. The results of this evaluation were inconclusive, due at least in part to the minimal numbers of cases within the IFC Pilot Project. Further evaluation by the Family Court Department and the Juvenile Court Department, as summarized in a joint Memorandum from the two departments dated March 30, 2005, indicates that the IFC Pilot Project as currently constituted is not effectively achieving its goals as originally outlined. Accordingly, it has become necessary to modify the IFC Pilot Project to implement more streamlined procedures consistent with the goals articulated by the Arizona Supreme Court in Administrative Order No. 2003-023.

IT IS ORDERED that the IFC Pilot Project in the Maricopa County Superior Court is restructured as the "Integrated Family Court Management Plan" as follows:

1. Juvenile Court Will Assume Jurisdiction To Enter Custody Order. When any juvenile dependency case is identified as filed concurrently with any other family court or probate court case involving custody or guardianship issues of a minor child, the family court and/or probate court, as appropriate, will defer jurisdiction of all custody and parenting time issues to the juvenile court for adjudication as required by A.R.S. §8-202(F).
2. Surviving Custody/Parenting Time Order. Upon termination of the juvenile dependency action resulting in dismissal and reunification, the juvenile judge will enter a comprehensive custody order satisfying the requirements of A.R.S. §25-401 to -415 that will survive the dismissal of the juvenile dependency case. Unless the parties are married and no dissolution of marriage is concurrently filed, this custody order will be filed in any existing, or concurrently established, family court case number that involves the same parties. If no family court case number exists, the Clerk of the Court at the juvenile court will file the order in a newly created family court case number.
3. Paternity Orders Survive. Any paternity orders entered in the juvenile proceeding will be incorporated or reestablished in the surviving custody order. This will insure that juvenile paternity orders are not vacated and will place the orders in a public record so that the parties and the family court will have a reliable and readily accessible record of the disposition of this issue.
4. Family Court Case Proceeds. The family court will proceed to expeditiously and finally adjudicate all remaining issues in the family court case and enter an appropriate Decree, Judgment or Order. The family court Decree, Judgment or Order may incorporate by reference or defer to the juvenile court order, as appropriate. The probate court will dismiss or defer any guardianship or custody issues to the family court or juvenile court, as appropriate.
5. Child Support Orders. Initial child support orders will be entered by the family court or the juvenile court after consultation with the assigned family court and juvenile court judges, based upon any existing custody orders entered by the juvenile court in the dependency action. Where appropriate both parents can be ordered to pay child support to a third party caregiver in accordance with the Arizona Child Support Guidelines.
6. Modification & Enforcement. All future petitions to modify or enforce the custody or child support orders will be filed in the family court case.
7. Delinquency & Other Cases Handled Uniquely. All juvenile delinquency cases, as well as all other overlapping family court, probate court and juvenile court cases excepting juvenile dependency cases provided for above, will be managed as determined after consultation between the various assigned judges.

8. Integrated Family Court Management Plan. The separate Integrated Family Court will be collapsed back into the Family Court, Probate Court, and Juvenile Court Departments to be administered by each department within its area of statutory jurisdiction with the modifications set forth above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this revised Integrated Family Court Pilot shall commence July 1, 2005, and continue as the permanent IFC Plan of the Maricopa County Superior Court after the expiration of the initial time period determined by the Arizona Supreme Court for the IFC Pilot unless modified by subsequent order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Maricopa County Administrative Order Nos. 2001-020, 2002-013, 2002-019, and 2004-086 are vacated.

Dated this _____ day of June, 2005.

Honorable Colin F. Campbell
Presiding Judge

Honorable Barbara R. Mundell
Presiding Judge Designate

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: The Honorable Charles E. Jones, Chief Justice
The Honorable Ruth V. McGregor, Vice Chief Justice
The Honorable Norman J. Davis, Family Court Presiding Judge
The Honorable Emmett Ronan, Juvenile Court Presiding Judge
All Family Court & Juvenile Judges
David Byers, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts
Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Trial Courts Administrator